

Modeling the Dust in Comet P/Wild 2 for STARDUST

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The main goal of the Stardust mission is to collect and return an intact dust sample. In order to target the spacecraft to an appropriate miss distance (nominally 150 km on the sunward side), an estimate of the amount of dust in the inner coma has to be made. An extensive ground-based observing campaign was carried out during the comet's 1997 perihelion passage. This talk will summarize the infrared data obtained in 1997 and the dust models fit to the infrared spectral energy distribution. Dust production rates for two different size distributions will be compared.